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**PRIORITY**

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REVEALS THE FOLLOWING STATUS OF ROADS IN THE NORTHERN LAOTIAN  
PANHANDLE:

1. A. ROUTE 12 REMAINS HEAVILY CRATERED AND PARTIALLY OVERGROWN IN THE VICINITY OF THE MU GIA PASS CHOKEPOINT AT 17 35N-105 44E (UTM WE780450), BUT IS SERVICEABLE AND IN LIMITED USE BETWEEN THE JUNCTION WITH ROUTE 23 AT 17 34N-105 43E (UTM WE771425) AND ROUTE 128 AT 17 35N-105 30E (UTM WE531440); ROUTE 128 BY-PASSES AN UNSERVICEABLE SEGMENT OF ROUTE 12 BETWEEN THIS POINT AND 17 30N-105 25E (UTM WE453350) AND SHOWS EVIDENCE OF RECENT VEHICULAR ACTIVITY.

B. ROUTES 1201 AND 1202 ARE APPARENTLY IN USE AS ALTERNATE ROADS THROUGH THE MU GIA PASS. ROUTE 1202 SHOWS EVIDENCE OF RECENT HEAVY VEHICULAR ACTIVITY BETWEEN 17 35N-105 45E (UTM WE800450) AND THE ROUTE 23 JUNCTION AT 17 28N-105 42E (UTM WE752319); AND ROUTE 1201 IS SERVICEABLE WITH LIMITED USAGE BETWEEN 17 36N-105 44E (UTM WE794466) AND THE ROUTE 23 JUNCTION AT 17 33N-105 44E (UTM WE778410).

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**GROUP 1**  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

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25X1

2. ROUTE 23 IS SERVICEABLE SOUTH FROM ROUTE 12 TO THE JUNCTION WITH ROUTE 1201; UNSERVICEABLE BETWEEN THE ROUTE 1201 AND 1202 JUNCTIONS; AND SERVICEABLE WITH EVIDENCE OF HEAVY VEHICULAR ACTIVITY SOUTH FROM THE ROUTE 1202 JUNCTION TO THE JUNCTION WITH ROUTE 911 AT 17 21N-105 43E (UTM WE765182). A BY-PASS OF THE DESTROYED BAN PAK PHA NANG HIGHWAY BRIDGE OVER THE NAM PHA NANG [REDACTED] INCLUDES A PROBABLE FERRY CROSSING ON THE XE BANG FAI (RIVER AT 17 24N-105 44E (UTM WE792237) AND A SERVICEABLE FORD ON THE NAM PHA NANG (RIVER) AT 17 23N-105 44E (UTM WE783225).

25X1

25X1

3. ROUTE 911 AND 91 ARE INTERMITTANTLY OBSERVED BETWEEN THE ROUTE 911/23 JUNCTION AT 17 21N-105 43E (UTM WE765182) SE TO ROUTE 91/9 JUNCTION AT 16 43N 106 10E (UTM XD247486). BOTH ROUTES APPEAR ACTIVE AND SERVICEABLE EXCEPT FOR A FEW RECENT BOMB INTERDICTIONS WHICH CAN BE EASILY BY-PASSED.

25X1

4. ROUTE 9 IS ACTIVE SW OF THE JUNCTION WITH ROUTE 91 AT 16 43N 106 10E (UTM XD247486). VEHICLE TRACKS ARE OBSERVED TO THE LIMIT OF PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE AT 16 42N-106 09E (UTM XD232476) 1.1 NM NE OF THE ROUTES 9/914 JUNCTION. ROUTE 9

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REMAINS UNSERVICEABLE AND IN DISUSE FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH  
ROUTE 91 (16 43N 106 10E) EAST BEYOND ITS JUNCTION WITH ROUTE  
92 AT 16 38N-106 25E (UTM XD504402) TO BAN HOU EI SANE AREA AT  
16 36N-106 32E (UTM XD643375).

25X1

5. LACK OF COMPLETE COVERAGE PRECLUDED A MORE DETAILED  
ANALYSIS OF THE SERVICEABILITY OF THE ROUTES REPORTED IN  
PARAGRAPHS 1-4, PARTICULARLY ROUTES 914 AND 23 SOUTH OF THE  
23/911 JUNCTION.

MAP REF: AMS SERIES L7012, SHEETS 6063 I, 6261 II, III AND  
IV; 6260 I SERIES L7015, 6144, II AND III; 6443 I, II AND IV.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

--END OF MESSAGE--

S/C NOTE: ALSO PASSED PRIORITY SAIGON INFO DIRECTOR, VIENTIANE,  
UDORN CITE NPIC 9323.